

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 29, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WILKINSON made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany Bill S. 233.]

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Alice Hunt, widow of Thomas Hunt, beg leave to report:*

That it appears, from the records of the War Department, Thomas Hunt, husband of petitioner, was appointed a third lieutenant, fourth infantry, 6th May, 1813; second lieutenant, March, 1814; retained, 15th May, 1815, in eighth infantry; transferred, January, 1816, to fifth infantry; first lieutenant, July, 1817; assistant commissary, March, 1819; captain, September, 1824; resigned, 31st October, 1836; died, Detroit, Michigan, 16th February, 1838.

The petitioner prays a pension, on the ground that her husband's death was caused by reason of disease contracted while in the line of his duty, in the service of the United States.

It appears that the husband of petitioner was made prisoner at Detroit, in 1812; was taken to Montreal; and that the hardships and exposures to which he was then subjected, made him violently ill, and permanently affected his constitution; that in 1813, from exposure to the weather in an inclement season, in the discharge of his duty, "he contracted inflammation in his right knee, which resulted in permanent stiffness of that joint, and which finally disabled him from performing his official duties;" that, on the 29th January, 1838, this lameness, thus induced, led him to a fall, which resulted in his death in the following February.

It also appears that the petitioner has no sufficient means to support herself and family.

Zina Pitcher, who was assistant surgeon in the United States army at that time, testifies to the same facts; and that, owing to his lameness, he made a misstep in descending a flight of stairs from his place of business, and fell, fracturing his skull, which resulted in his death.

Mrs. Abby S. Chaplin, sister of the deceased, confirms the statement of the widow.

The committee, therefore, believing this a meritorious case, report a bill for her relief.

